GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2928
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2016
Bharat Net Project
Bohara Shri Ramcharan

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to encourage States for State Specific Model for Bharat Net;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to grant funds to the State Governments for implementing the above project;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the proposal received along with Detailed Project Report (DPR) from State Governments in this regard, State-wise including Rajasthan; and

(e) the follow up action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) The Committee constituted by the Government, on 14th January, 2015, to review the strategy and approach towards speedy implementation of National Optical Fibre Network (renamed as BharatNet), had, inter-alia, recommended for involvement of States through State led model of implementation of BharatNet.

Telecom Commission has, on 30th April, 2016, approved a revised three phase implementation strategy of BharatNet. Under first phase of the project, 1 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) is to be connected by laying underground OFC by March 2017. Under second phase, connectivity will be provided to remaining 1.5 lakh GPs in the country using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power lines, radio and satellite media, by December, 2018. A state- of- the-art future-proof network, including fibre between districts and blocks and 5G services and Internet of Things era with underground OFC in ring architecture, is planned to be completed by 2023 under third phase.

(c) Laying of optical fibre cable (OFC) on power lines is to be implemented by State Governments through power distribution companies or any other agency. The Government of India, through Universal service Obligation Fund (USOF), is providing funds to States for Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping of the electricity poles. Once the mapping is completed, assessment of OFC to be laid on electricity poles and modality of implementation of laying aerial OFC will be finalised.

(d) & (e) State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan have submitted their Detailed Project Report (DPR) for laying of Optical Fibre Network in the respective States. No final decision on the proposals has, however, been taken.

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